

Thursday Morning, Dec. 16, 1869.

The Era Of Electricity and Steam and Iron.

The present may emphatically be denominated the era of scientific triumph. In this utilitarian age one watches jealously the encroachments which practical men are making on the poetry of nature. Electricity flashes the prices of grey shirts through the caverns beneath the ocean, and in its profoundest depths Schiller's diver as likely as not would find his hands on the inevitable gutta-percha while groping for the jewelled cup. Having submerged Time under the billows of the Atlantic, the science-men went on to demolish Space, and the leagues of prairie, snow and waste that lie between the Missouri and the Pacific. The neighing of the steam-horse, as he careered madly across the continent seemed likely to scare romance from its last and safest refuge. Rival railway companies concerted an invasion of the happy home of hyperbole, where the unsophisticated children of nature revel in fancies as free as their institutions and manners, imagination limitless as their plains, talk tall as their mountains, imagery copious as their rivers, and humor stimulating as their salt-licks. On Saturday we republished from the London Times a letter which, if all have not read all would do well to read. The writer forecasts a great revolution in marine locomotion. Iron is to take the place of wood, and steam is to take the place of wind. The ocean carrying trade of the world is to be performed by iron screw steamers. The great Cleveland seam, in Yorkshire, is to yield its five thousand million tons of ironstone, thirty-three per cent. metallic iron, and England is to become the shipyard of the world. Now all this is marvellous, but it is not unreasonable. Nay, it is morally certain that such a revolution is close at hand. Even now we see the old ocean trade round the Cape of Good Hope threatened by the Suez Canal, and that round Cape Horn equally jeopardized by the Darien Canal, and still more effectually by our own Northwest passage, so long and eagerly sought, and so simply found. And this brings us to a part of the subject peculiarly interesting to us. To no country in the world can this new condition of things suggest more momentous interests than to British Columbia. If England has her Cleveland seam of ironstone, we have our mountains of that stone, yielding at least twice the percentage of metallic iron. But, what is, perhaps of greater, certainly of more immediate importance, we possess a monopoly of good harbors and good coal on the North Pacific. We hold in our hand the key to the great Northwest Passage. 'The influence of a nation,' said Napoleon after fifteen years of Sovereignty, 'depends upon the number of men it is able to put under arms—a doctrine which, if accepted, means the age of conquest is not over, that the ruinous competition of armaments must continue until every civilized subject is a drilled soldier. "I notice," said the man who made Prussia, "that God is usually found on the side of the big battalions." For our part, we believe the era of "big battalions" is passing away—giving place to that of scientific conquest, when "man runneth to and fro, and knowledge increaseth," and we venture to think that hereafter God will usually be found on the side of big coal-measures and ironstone mountains. These deposits of nature are destined to become the great distributors of power, the arbiters of peace or war, the touchstone of national greatness. In this view, what a glorious future opens up before us! Great Britain in Europe, with her boundless coal stores and her practically inexhaustible Cleveland seam of ironstone, still supreme in her manufactures and commerce. The Greater Britain of America, with her Northwest Passage, and with her iron and coal upon the two great oceans! It only remains for the Mother Country to realize the magnitude of her position and her duty, and to deal with the young empire in a spirit of appreciative liberality, and enlightened enterprise, in order to secure for these two kindred powers a proud pre-eminence under the coming dispensation—the era of coal and of iron.

Real Reform.

If one-half of what Dame Rumour saith be true, Governor Musgrave will have accomplished more real reform during the few weeks an unfortunate accident has confined him to his bed than was attained during the entire term of the administration of his predecessor. This comes of baying at the head of affairs one who can do as well as promise—one who has the firmness to carry into effect measures which he has the sense to see are for the common good. This is as it should be. No matter how close at hand great political changes may be, it is clearly the true policy of the Governor to retrench and reform with as much zeal as though we were to remain a separate colony for another decade of years. When one looks back over the past six years, it is painful yesterday reflect how precious time has been squandered, nay, worse than wasted. Had Hotel been in the most ordinary presidential Phoenix Island the most ordinary presidential administrative ability must have recognized as being doing the country followed imme-

diately upon the ill-assorted union of these colonies, what a very different aspect would have been presented to-day. Governor Musgrave assumed the reins of power in this colony under circumstances both critical and trying; but at the same time, he could not well have come to us under circumstances better calculated to establish his reputation as a skilful administrator. He found the people worn out by fair promises and borne down by over-government; yet in that temper most favorable to the appreciation of a prompt, vigorous, and faithful administration. The people would prefer a vigorous personal government to an expensive, vacillating pseudo-representative one. Let his Excellency apply the pruning-knife with vigor and skill to the rank overgrowth which the Civil List has been permitted to attain under more than one administration; let the rusty doors be thrown open and the dank atmosphere of official inaction dissipated, and the colony will soon recover its wonted elasticity and buoyancy. Let the red-tape and the clogs, the dead-weights and the wens be removed, and the colony will soon right itself.

Inconvenient.

VICTORIA, Dec. 15th, 1869.

EDITOR BRITISH COLONIST:—It is not only inconvenient but a source of great discomfort to most of the residents of James Bay that no useful pathway or sidewalk is made leading from the Court House to an angular direction toward Mr. Tiedema's residence. The entire piece of ground is nearly ankle deep with mire, saving a few loose planks placed here and there, so that pedestrians are compelled to use the balcony of the Court to the annoyance of the Chief Justice and others when business is being transacted in Court or Chambers. Now a few planks would obviate the inconvenience and annoyance. It may be urged that this is Government property, and that by doing as suggested it might be a public thoroughfare. I do not think so, as it is Government property, but if there is a doubt upon the point, let the authorities erect a fence along Treasury street with room enough only for foot passengers to pass and repass so as to exclude vehicles of all kinds, and annually close the entrance for a day, as is the custom in many private thoroughfares in the city. This would be an accommodation not only to residents in the above locality but to others, and would save considerable distance from being obliged to walk along Treasury street to the water, thence to the bridge and vice versa. DRUID.

The Coming Woman.

The epistle of the Coming Woman in the *Advance* some weeks ago, calls out this companion piece:

To the Hon. Mrs. Standish, M. C. My Honored Wife—It is nearly ten o'clock, the children are safely tucked in bed, and although the week's mending stares me in the face I snatch a moment to spend in writing to you.

Can you spare a few moments from the cares and honors of a public life to read a few lines from my fond and obedient husband? I would gladly write oftener but you know my numerous cares, and some of my duties seem awkward to my unpracticed hand. To be sure I gained some experience during your absence in the campaign before election, but, do what I will, skimming the milk is not my forte, and as for working the butter with my hands as you told me, what a mess! I suggested to Betty, the other day—very meekly—that the duty belonged to her, but she indignantly refused. She says you always took care of the milk before you went into politics, and it's no business of hers if your head is turned. I do the best I can, but really Betty is a little hard to suit.

Then there is the sewing girl. What a time she gives me with her questions. I would pack her out of the house only the dear children are so shabby, and I am getting so nervous that I cannot sew.

By the way, what can be the matter with the pickled cabbage? We opened a jar of it the other day, and it is not at all nice. Betty says the onions spoiled it, but I am sure, dear, you told me to use onions to give it a relish; or was it horse radish instead of onions? I declare I am quite bewildered. The pickled currants, too, are terribly strong. Could I have made a mistake in putting them up, and need pepper instead of spice? You see I cannot find the cook book you said was in the house, and I have been so short of change that buying one was not to be thought of. Couldn't you make the next month's allowance a little larger? Maggie's toes are out of her gaiters, and her best hat is shocking.

Write me a long letter as soon as you get this, and come home for the holidays if you can be spared. But you must not expect us to look so very nice, though I wear myself out. I sweep and dust every week of my life, and insist on the children keeping their playthings and out-door traps under the table—out of the way there, you see—and so much handier than if hung up out of the little ones' reach. Your faithful husband, MOSES STANDISH.

P.S.—What shall I give the baby when he has colic? The other night I gave him pain killer, and you can hardly imagine how he screamed. I think it must have been temper, he got so red in the face. Betty says I ought to give him syrup, but then I am firm. Syrup is good with butter-cakes—but I'll never believe it will cure colic without your orders. Baby has one tooth. S.M.

P.S. again.—What shall I do? Betty just came to the nursery to give me warning that she will leave tomorrow. I was going to learn how to make bread next week. I cannot leave the children, to find another girl, and Betty says she won't be ordered around by a great staring man. But I ought not to annoy you with these trifles. YOUR MOSES.

New Advertisements.

WANTED.
A WOMAN WHO CAN COOK AND WILL make herself generally useful in a small family. To such a person the HIGHEST WAGES will be paid. Apply at the COLONIST OFFICE.

HOOP IRON.
FOR SALE BY THE UNDERSIGNED.
1 1/4 and 1 3/4 inch Hoop Iron.
ALSO—Round, Square and Flat Iron, Sheet Iron and Canada Plate, in quantities to suit.
FINLAY & DURHAM.

A CARD.
MESSRS. SPROAT & CO. Agents of the ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
Gentlemen,—I beg to offer you my sincere thanks for the very prompt and liberal manner in which, on behalf of the Royal Insurance Company, you settled my claim of \$1000 for damage sustained by the burning of the Crown Hotel, Esplanade.
Such promptitude and liberality are deserving of every encouragement. I am, gentlemen, Yours obediently,
W. M. SELLECK.

Pocket and Office
DIARIES
FOR
1870.
Now Ready.
T. N. HIRREN & CO.

TO FARMERS:
THE HIGHEST CASH PRICE PAID
for Good Wheat by
J. RUEFF,
Wharf St., Victoria.

CAUTION.
ALL PERSONS ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED not to purchase South Seattle Property of one Ralph Phelps, as he obtained a Deed by fraud, and the title will be contested. JOHN J. MOSS, de16 1m
Seattle, W. T., Dec. 10, 1869.

INFORMATION WANTED
OF JOHN HOLDEN LAWTON, AGED 25 years, a native of Manchester, England. The last heard of him he was in the Royal Hospital at Victoria, Vancouver Island, laid up of a fractured thigh, caused by assisting in getting an engine out of the ship LUSITAN. Any information of him will be thankfully received by his father, James M. Lawton, 314 Locust Street, St. Louis, State of Missouri, America. de15 4t

REMOVAL.
WM. DALBY
HAS REMOVED HIS
SADDLERY, HARNESS
AND

Trunk Establishment
TO THE
ST. NICHOLAS BUILDINGS,
de15 GOVERNMENT STREET.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS!
—OF—

Watches, Jewelry,
DIAMONDS.
SILVERWARE.

THE UNDERSIGNED OFFERS HIS Large Stock of
LADIES' & GENTS' GOLD WATCHES
CHAINS, NECKLACES
BRACELETS, BROOCHES
EARRINGS, BUCKLES
SLEEVE BUTTONS
PENCIL CASES
RINGS, LOCKETS
CHARMS, Etc., Etc.

—ALSO—
SILVER AND PLATEDWARE.

COMPRISING,
GOBLET, CUPS
NAPKIN RINGS, FISH SLICES
SALT CELLARS
TEA & TABLE SPOONS & Forks
PORTMONIES
CARD CASES, TEA SETS
SUGAR BOWLS
BUTTER COOLERS
CAKE BASKETS
CANNISTERS
Etc., Etc., Etc.

GILT, MARBLE AND BRONZE CLOCKS,
Opera Glasses and Fancy Goods.

At Greatly Reduced Prices,

FOR THE
HOLIDAYS!!

The Public are invited to call and inspect my assortment.
de15 Adj. W. G. JAMESON
Adj. W. G. JAMESON Hotel.

Mineral Boring.
THE UNDERSIGNED HAVING HAD many years experience in boring for minerals, and enjoyed every facility for acquiring a thorough practical knowledge of the Coal strata of this Colony, begs to inform parties who are about to prospect for Coal that he is now open for an engagement and holds himself in readiness to conduct any operation of that nature which may be entrusted to him.

MR. J. DICK, Nanaimo.
References:—Mr. J. Bryden, Manager V.I.C.; Mr. John Dunsmuir, Manager Harwood Co. de14 3mdkw

CHRISTMAS!!

RAISINS
CURRANTS
LEMONS
ORANGE PEEL
ALMONDS
WALNUTS
FILBERTS
PEANUTS
APPLES
SWEETENED
CHOCOLATE
COCOA
JAPAN TEA
U. S. do
U. S. A. do

And a General Assortment of GROCERIES and PROVISIONS just received and for sale by
de14 1m RICHARD CARR, Wharf St.

A CARD.

To THOS. C. NUTTALL, Esq., Agent for the Phoenix Assurance Company, of London.

Sir—We beg on behalf of Mr. Thomas Trowace to tender you our grateful acknowledgments for the promptitude in payment of the insurance effected on the Crown Hotel, at Esplanade, in the sum of \$2500, lately destroyed by fire, and which amount was this day paid to us on our application.

THOS. L. FAWCETT,
EDWIN DONALD,
Attorneys in fact for Mr. Thomas Trowace.

NOTICE.

THE UNDERSIGNED WILL CONTINUE, as heretofore, to supply the Trade with the

FULL TON OF COAL

AT CURRENT RATES,
Viz: 2240 lbs. for \$11,

DELIVERED.
H. BRODRICK & CO.

THEO. H. DAVIES,

[LATE JANION, GREEN & CO.]
Importer and Commission Merchant,
AGENT FOR
Lloyd's and the Liverpool Underwriters,
HONOLULU, S. I. de6 6m

New Advertisements.

Wholesale Dry Goods.

J. H. TURNER & CO.

Are now Opening Ex MEDORA from London.

A Large Assortment of DRY GOODS,

SUITABLE FOR WHOLESALE BUYERS.

Wholesale Department

(UP STAIRS.)

LONDON HOUSE, Government Street.

NO THOROUGHFARE!

D. SPENCER

OFFERS HIS

New Stock.

EX Medora,

AT A

Clearing Out Price!

TOYS, FANCY GOODS AND

GIFT BOOKS!!

ALL MUST BE SOLD!!

de14 GOVERNMENT STREET.

MONEY TO LOAN

AT LOW RATES, ON FIRST CLASS

HOUSES TO LET.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PROPERTIES

for Sale or to Let.

T. ALLSOP,

Agent,
Government Street, near Broughton

de15 6m

PROMIS & SAUNDERS.

[Successors to P. MANETTA.]

IMPORTERS AND DEALERS IN

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, WINES,

LIQUORS, &c.

CONSTANTLY ON HAND—THE BEST AND

cheapest selection of Family Groceries.

All Goods delivered by express wagon free of charge.

Highest Price paid for FARM PRODUCE.

e.g. Very superior Bordeaux Claret Wine by gallon or case.

JOHNSON ST., VICTORIA, V. I.

de15 3m

ST. JOHN'S DAY.

A GRAND BALL

IN CELEBRATION OF

ST. JOHN'S DAY

WILL TAKE PLACE ON

MONDAY, 27th DECEMBER, 1869,

AT THE

Alhambra Hall,

Under the Management of the

MASONIC FRATERNITY OF VICTORIA.

TICKETS, to admit a Gentleman and Ladies, \$5.

Masons can obtain Tickets for themselves and friends

on application to the following members of the

COMMITTEE:

H. Nathan, Jr., J. D. Jones, H. Adams, F. H. Lamb.

GENERAL COMMITTEE:

R. H. Adams, H. Nathan, Jr., E. Harrison, C. Thomas, L. Franklin, S. Duck, H. L. Jones.

F. H. LAMB, Sec'y.

de12

HEYWOOD'S

CELEBRATED

Pork Sausage

The only GENUINE ARTICLE in the Colony.

Manufactured from the very best of

GRAIN FED PORK!

AND SEASONED IN THE

ENGLISH, GERMAN, ITALIAN, AND

FRENCH STYLES.

—ALSO—

German Sausage,

BOLOGNAS, & POTTED HEAD

Of every Description.

J. HEYWOOD

YORKSHIRE MARKET, YATES ST.,

no21 6m VICTORIA, V. I.

de14

Colonies of British Columbia and its Dependencies.

To Wit:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT

a General Annual Licensing Meeting and Special

Session of the Justices of the Peace acting in and for Van-

couver Island, in the Colony of British Columbia and its

Dependencies, will be held at the Police Court, Bannock-

burn street, Victoria, on Thursday, the Twenty third day

of December instant, at the hour of Twelve noon, for the

purpose of granting Licenses to such persons as may be

desirous of keeping houses for the sale of Wines, Spirits,

&c., by Wholesale and Retail, during the ensuing half

year.

A. TUCKERSON,

Clerk to the Justices.

de14

PLANKS—MORTGAGES, DEEDS

RECEIPTS, Bonds or Loans, done; Low, at the

BRITISH COLONIST Job Printing Office.

de15

Victoria Nursery & Seed Establishment

MITCHELL & JOHNSTON,

HAVE NOW ON SALE CHEAP

25,000 FRUIT TREES

Including most of the latest varieties in Cultivation. The trees are from one to four years old, and in prime condition for transplanting. Also

A LARGE GENERAL NURSERY STOCK

Consisting of small Fruits, Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Standard and Dwarf Roses and other Flowering Plants, Asparagus, Seakale, Rhubarb, &c.; and

GREENHOUSE PLANTS,

A large Assortment of SEEDS and every requisite for the Farm and Garden always in Stock at the Store,

OCCIDENTAL BUILDINGS,

FORT STREET, VICTORIA.

Wants, &c.

WANTED.

6000 RAILS SPLIT AT CLOVERDALE, Victoria District. Apply on the premises to A. J. TOLMIE, c/o Victoria, to MESSRS. STAFFORD & HICKEN, Butchers, Government street. no18 1m

WANTED.

ABLE SEAMEN FOR LONDON, VALA paraiso, New Zealand and Sydney. Apply at the shipping office of J. NAGLE, Opp. Police Barracks, Sydney and New Zealand. no14

ENGLISH BAZAAR!

FORT STREET, VICTORIA.

MRS. JOHNSTON

Has just received from Europe a large assortment of

ELEGANT GOODS!

SUITABLE FOR

Christmas Presents

CONSISTING OF

USEFUL AND FANCY ARTICLES.

Piano Fortes

Musical Boxes

Work Boxes

Satchels

Writing Desks

Ladies' Companions

Tattooing Satchels.

ELECTRO-PLATED WARE:

Tea Sets

Biscuit Vases (the only ones imported)

Cake Baskets

Crust Stands

Dessert Knives and Forks

Forks and Spoons

Champagne Syphons.

Cutlery of a Superior Description.

Carvers

Corkscrews

Dinner and Breakfast Knives

Penknives and Scissors

MISCELLANEOUS

French Jewellery

Baskets

A choice collection of the most Modern Comic Songs and

Piano Forte Music

Tops imported from England, France and Germany, sit-

able for Christmas Trees

Colored Wax Tapers

Dolls of every size

Bryant and May's Safety Matches and Vesuvians

Cigars of the best brands

Brushes of every description

Pocket Combs and Looking Glasses

Fancy Wool Work

Boots and Shoes, and Hosiery

Berlin Wools and Knitting Wools

Ladies' and Children's Under and Lion

Dress Trimmings

Velvets

Brads, Buttons

Dress Suspenders, Woolen Fichus

Millinery, Children's Dresses and Cloaks

Stationery, Cricket, Croquet and Archery Sets

Confectionery.

Worthen's (of Glasgow) Candies of every kind and

finest quality, in 1lb, 2lb, and 4lb bottles

Toffee, in tin foil packets

French Chocolate

Scotch Marmalade, Canned Fruit

An assortment of the finest Biscuits

Apple Paring, Pea Shelling and Mining Machines

Elastic Sides can be replaced to Boots, by a Machine

Imported for the purpose.

DIED.

At Craigflower, on the 14th inst., Jane, third daughter of William and Jane Vitch, aged 21 years.

The funeral will take place from St Andrew's Church, on Thursday, at 2 p.m. Friends and acquaintances are invited to attend.

For interesting Reading Matter see First Page

ARCHBISHOP CONNOLLY ON SIR J. YOUNG.—At the Halifax banquet given to Sir John Young, Archbishop Connolly explained why he had taken so active a part in the festivities. Amongst other things he said:—"I am here to-night to offer an Irishman's welcome to the man who, during the whole of a long and chequered life, proved himself to be the Irishman's friend all over the globe. No sooner was our magnificent cathedral burned down in Australia than Sir John Young, himself a Protestant, was the very first man to come to the rescue and to call on his fellow Protestants everywhere to help the Catholics in the hour of their desolation. He has not only condescended to become chairman at a public meeting for that purpose, but he headed the subscription list with a hundred pounds as a first instalment, and has made a speech that has immortalized his name at home and abroad. There may be other Catholics of Irish extraction, either ignorant of the merits of the case or stolid enough not to pay respect to such a man, but for my part I should be recreant to every principle of honor, if I did not do everything within my power to be simply grateful. I am here, too, because as an Irishman I feel proud to see a fellow-countryman in so distinguished a position, and qualified for it by every virtue of head and heart that can do honor to human nature."

THE NEW ZEALAND QUESTION.—Lord Carnarvon has written a very moderate, sensible and statesmanlike letter to the *Times* upon the unhappy difficulty which has arisen between New Zealand and the Colonial Office. His Lordship would appear to have hit the happy medium. His letter may be thus epitomized:—"The colonists, no doubt, were originally to blame, though there may have been faults on both sides. They refused to pay for Imperial troops and voluntarily repudiated all assistance or interference on the part of the Home Government. But they have now altered their tone—they ask and will pay for Imperial troops. In rigorous logic, the Home Government is no doubt justified in still adhering to the decision which the colonists of their own free act forced upon it. But 'rigorous logic' ought not to govern the question. There are other far weightier considerations. The Mother Country ought not to throw away the loyalty and affection of her children. She is bound to give to her own flesh and blood the help she has often given to less deserving strangers, especially as she can do so without risk of pecuniary loss."

ASSAY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA QUARTZ AT SAN FRANCISCO.—The Active of the down trip a month ago, took away 2300 pounds of quartz rock for assay at San Francisco. The rock was taken from a lead on the coast of the mainland close to Bella Bella, by Mr. M. Moss. On the return of the Active the Assayer's return was received, viz: Value of gold per ton, \$22 33; value of silver \$8 48—total value of ore per ton, \$30 81. Samples of the same rock assayed at the Bank of British North America in this city yielded from 6 oz to 31 oz to the ton. The San Francisco assayers say that the rock contains 82 per cent. of sulphuric acid, which have no means of working. Hence the test is not satisfactory. Mr. Moss will send from 30 to 50 tons of the ore to Swansea, England, for assay, by first ship.

PROGRESS IN JAPAN.—Japan is going ahead. A railroad is to be built from Kobe to Osaka and a telegraph from Jedd to Yokohama. A new mint is about to be established by the government and a general system of education under foreign teaching. These movements mark the positive inauguration of a new age of civilization and progress in Japan, and China, too. The barriers which for thousands of years have excluded from those populous and productive nations all 'outlet barbarians' are broken down, and in Japan and China the governing authorities and classes are leading the way in the introduction in army, navy, manufactures, communications, trade, education, &c., of all the 'modern improvements' from the powerful 'barbarians of the West.'

ARRIVAL FROM SITKA.—The U.S. revenue cutter Lincoln, Capt Evans, from Sitka on the 1st inst., arrived at 9 o'clock last evening. The Lincoln touched at Nainimo, where she found the steamship Constantine from Sitka on the 5th, calling for Port Townsend. Met the Newbern on Sunday night, 20 miles south of Fort Rupert. The Lincoln was upwards of 12 days in getting to Nainimo, in consequence of head winds and want of fuel. Mr T G Murphy, editor of the *Alaska Times*, came as passenger. The Lincoln is announced to leave at 2 o'clock this morning for San Francisco.

THE PUGET SOUND CO.—The New York Tribune says:—It is known that the British Government is highly satisfied with the recent award made by the joint commission for adjusting the claims of the Hudson Bay and Puget Sound Cos., although the award does not amount to one tenth of the sum originally demanded. It intimates that this result will render the British Government more disposed to have the Alabama claims similarly settled.

New Books.—Hibben & Co. have laid on our table three charming books for young readers and quite appropriate as gifts at this joyous season. The Golden Dawn, by 'May Wentworth'; 'The Candy Elephant,' by Miss Dolliver, and 'Phebe Traverser, or one year at a French Boarding School,' comprise the interesting lot. The books are elegantly bound, and are from the well-known house of Roman & Co., San Francisco, who are also the publishers of many other select and standard works.

INSURANCES PAID.—Messrs. Sprout & Co., agents for the Royal Insurance Company, yesterday paid \$1000 to Mr. Sellock of Esquimalt the amount for which the Crown Fire was insured in that office. This sum, with \$3500 paid by Mr. Nuttall, agent for the Phoenix Insurance Company, a few days ago, comprises the amount (\$4500) for which the building was insured.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.—With all the many tendencies both present and prospective to depress us as a community, it is evident to the dullest observer, that our town is alive to the importance of the approaching anniversary of the Holidays. The shop windows of each avenue display the many attractive wares, to make glad the hearts of the young and foster the friendship of the mere nature. Among them all there is one upon Government street, less ostentatious perhaps in its outward display, but within bears careful analysis, where attention is respectfully called to all those who participate in these pleasures to a recent choice and carefully selected lot of suitable goods, both for use and beauty, unlike all other displays and peculiar to T. N. Hibben & Co.

BEAUTIFUL.—Hibben & Co. are the possessors of a copy of Holy Writ illustrated by the renowned French artist Gustave Dore. The plates are lifelike and as a specimen of typographic beauty the work is unequalled. The cost of the book in England is fifteen guineas. What a beautiful and appropriate Christmas present the book would be.

WILD BEASTS.—On Tuesday Weir, of Mitchosin, brought in the heads of a wolf and panther, which had been shot near his place. Yesterday, from Peet's, in Mitchosin, a panther's head was brought in. In each case \$10 was paid by the Police Magistrate to the 'shooters.'

The ship Nation's Hope, bound for the B.C. & V.I. Mills, arrived yesterday afternoon. The Nation's Hope sailed from San Francisco on the 3rd in company with the Glimpse. Off Cape Flattery, on Saturday last, she experienced a terrible southerly which blew her off the coast. The Nation's Hope will be towed to the inlet to-day.

THE BARK RUBY.—Another effort was to have been made by H.M.S. Sparrowhawk yesterday afternoon to get the Ruby off—with what success we have not learned. The Ruby lies imbedded in about six feet of shingle or gravel. She makes no water and it is believed she has sustained no injury.

COME DOWN FOR REPAIRS.—The well known tug Isabel, property of the B.C. & V.I. Mill Company, arrived on Tuesday night from Burrard Inlet with one passenger—Capt. Raymer. The Isabel having got rather the worst of an encounter with the rocks in English Bay, some months since, has been brought down to undergo a surgical operation at the yard of Doctor Living.

BURRARD INLET.—The barkentine Alois and the brig Coquette are loading at Moody's. The bark Maud Ellen is loading at the B.C. & V.I. Mills. The cargo is all ready, but is being taken in slowly.

FROSTBITE.—A Whitepiner, suffering from frostbite in one of his feet, was admitted to the Royal Hospital yesterday. The toes of the member have been amputated. The bite was contracted while the patient was prospecting in the White Pine mountains.

ROBINSON'S MAGIC SOAP will soon be manufactured at the Welsh Brewery building, James Bay—the building having been secured for the purpose. Welch, the builder of the brewery, is now a practising physician (I) in San Francisco.

By Electric Telegraph.

SPECIAL TO THE DAILY BRITISH COLONIST.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES.

Cuba.
HAYANA Dec 10.—City of Mexico dates to Dec 1st have been received. Mr Seward and party arrived Nov 15th. They were received at the railway station by President Juarez and his Cabinet and a commission of notables. On the night of Nov 25th a grand banquet was given Mr Seward in the Palace, at which President Juarez, his Cabinet, other prominent persons and a very large crowd was present—all anxious to see Mr Seward who will probably leave about the 10th of December.

California.
SAN FRANCISCO, Dec 13.—Arrived—Bark Onward, from Utah. Sailed—Bark Gen Cobb for Seabeck; 13th, bark Live Yankee for Astoria.

DELAYED DISPATCHES.

Eastern States.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—General Sherman in his report, which will be submitted to Congress Monday, opposes any further reduction of the army. He says the entire army is on duty and he has constant calls for more troops, which cannot be granted. He calls the President's earnest attention to this matter, that Congress may be appealed to, not to diminish the military establishment. He urges the unsettled character of a large region measured North South, East and West by thousands of miles, the acts of Indians who inhabit, and the growing necessity for affording greater protection to the roads that traverse that region, and the mining and agricultural interests therein. While the nation at large is at peace, a state of quasi war continues to exist over half its extent and the troops therein are exposed to labor, murder, fights and dangers that amount to war. The withdrawing or largely diminishing of these troops in the Indian country, as well as in some parts of the Southern States, would, he believes, result in a condition of things amounting to anarchy. He refers to the labors and exposure of officers and men, and hopes that they will receive assurances to which they are fairly entitled, that their labors are appreciated. Officers have been required to perform duties as Indian Agents, Governors, Sheriffs, etc., foreign to their military training, and have done these duties without murmur and with marked intelligence. He says he has never known officers so poor, but he hopes that by the appreciation of currency that their compensations will become more satisfactory. Any diminution of their pay would result in a loss to the service or every good officer, and to the damage of the army itself. He advises the adoption by Congress of new army regulations as prepared by the special board of officers. In referring to the army consolidation he says: "There are 599 unattached officers of whom 156 are awaiting orders. The number of retired officers is 172. He urges that the cavalry and artillery regiments be officered alike in regimental and company organiza-

tions, and he asks for cavalry companies. He urges that it is unjust that the reduction of the army should fall exclusively upon the infantry arm of the service and recommends that after Congress has enacted necessary laws, the President assemble a board of disinterested general officers to whom shall be committed the whole matter of reduction and reorganization. He comments upon what he calls the absurdity of the Staff of the Army making their report to the Secretary of War. If this is continued, he says, we have the absurdity of a General commanding the army with his chief staff officers reporting to somebody else. He hopes for legislation that will allow officers of the army to call upon the General for troops instead of the President and advocates that the forts covering the cities of Portland, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, New Orleans and San Francisco be completed as soon as possible. He calls attention to the earnest recommendation of Gen. Thomas that the seal islands of Alaska, St. Pauls and St. George be sold to the highest bidder. He is informed that parties in San Francisco are ready to bid several millions of dollars, which he says would go far toward indemnifying the government, for otherwise it is a poor and costly country.

MISERABLE DEATHS.—On Wednesday, among a batch of inquests which Dr. Lankester held at the College Arms, Camden Town, were two upon men of high acquirements—one of whom, a professor of modern languages, died from the effects of poison, and the Hebrew scholar, stated to be a graduate of a University, died from the effects of long continued starvation. The first case was that of Ronald Douglas alias Ronald Campbell, the first name having been given and the second afterwards substituted. The brother of the deceased man, Fraser Campbell, stated that the deceased had been a professor of modern languages at Paris and elsewhere and was acquainted with eight living languages, in all of which he could converse and correspond, and indeed he had edited papers in all. Ronald was 28 years of age and for many years had so accustomed himself to take opium that he could take all an ounce at a draught. He had also taken to the habit of drinking prussic acid and carried a bottle of it about with him. On Monday night on coming to their lodgings—for the two brothers were lodging together—Fraser heard his brother pouring out the prussic acid into a glass—common practice with him—and he, although somewhat intoxicated, thought too much was being poured out and told Ronald to take care. The reply the deceased made was something to the effect that he had taken enough to kill himself and he added a farewell, Fraser at once called for assistance. Medical attendance was called, but all to no purpose, for he died soon after taking it. In cross-examination the witness said he had been out with the deceased all day and the latter had not taken much drink, though he himself had taken sufficient to render him he explained somewhat cloudy in his understanding. He declared that the deceased knew what he was about, for he was always talking of committing suicide. He was in pecuniary and other difficulties, being separated from his wife and having failed in some undertakings abroad, but he could have continued in good employment in the Easton road if he had been so inclined. Other evidence was called and the jury returned a verdict of 'Suicide while labouring under temporary insanity.'

The second case was that of Lewis Browne, aged 49. This poor man lodged in a house in Aldenham street, Hampstead road, and had formerly paid 2s a week, but of late his landlady had taken no rent, and had supplied him with food. He had been a schoolmaster or tutor, but his occupation from some unexplained cause, had gone. He did some porter's work at 8s per week, but being unable to continue that, he applied for out-door relief at St. Pancras, where they gave him, it was stated by his landlady, a day's work at oakum-picking, and the unaccustomed labor from 7 in the morning until 5 at night brought him 3d. He did not go a second time, but existed miserably for a few weeks more. Mrs. Jenkins and Mr. Christian—the first his landlady and the second a gentleman who used to meet the deceased in the British Museum Library—gave him assistance, but at length he went into the workhouse. He was seen by Dr. Hill, the medical officer of the body of the house, who administered restorative, but the poor fellow was too far gone and died three days afterwards really of the effects of starvation. The Coroner commented on the distressing nature of the case, and a verdict in accordance with the medical testimony was returned. The people who, as far as they possibly could, had made themselves the friends of this poor man, bitterly complained that by the 'rules and regulations' of St. Pancras Workhouse they had been refused the privilege of seeing the deceased in life.

Colored Virginia Senators.

A writer in the Richmond *Journal*, sketching the prominent members of the Virginia Senate, thus notices the five colored Senators: Mr. Bland, of Prince Edward, displays far more than average ability, speaks grammatically and debates well. He is bold enough to dispute points and argue motions with the best of them. In person Mr. Bland is comely, skin dark but not decidedly black, face well rounded, and when he speaks he shows a fine set of teeth. He dresses well and looks altogether like one who was inwardly content with, if not proud of his lot. Dr. Lyons is a new comer into the political field. As he has not spoken upon any subject yet we have no means of judging of his oratorical powers. His dress is faultless. In form he is an Apollo, in complexion an olive—very bright, eyes large and lustrous, hair short, soft and silky. He must be very young—not over 22 or 23. A Republican. George Teahom was a member of the Convention, where he was particularly noted for his onslaught upon the Conservative newspapers of this city. Mr. Teahom is a shrewd politician and a close but not able debater. There is nothing striking in his appearance. John Robinson of Amelia is a bright mulatto, very nearly white; face beardless dress plain. He seldom speaks but usually conveys his sentiments through his balot. W. P. Mosely of Gloucester is a large, benevolent looking colored man, well-developed head and brow, a firm, large mouth set around with grey whiskers. He is well educated but makes no display of his intelligence. A CHANCE FOR BARGAINS IN CLOTHING.—A. Gilmore, Yates street, near Government has commenced to sell off his entire stock of ready-made clothing at cost, to close out that branch of his business, as he intends to confine his attention to MERCHANT TAILORING. Garments of every description made to order in the most fashionable styles at greatly reduced prices.

LONDON HOUSE.—ARRIVAL OF THE AUTUMN AND WINTER STOCK.—By the Active J. H. Turner & Co. received their full stock of Autumn and Winter Goods. The stock at London in September—the best guarantee buyers at London House can have of the fashionable character of the goods. Particular attention is directed to the assortment of Dress and Millinery Goods, which is large and rich, and to the facilities at London House for Dress and Mantle-making by experienced hands.

TARTAN NOVELTIES.—At VICTORIA HOUSE will be found an assortment of the new styles of Tartan trimmings, braids, ribbons, velvet, sashes, &c., just received by express—also, a few elegant French Costumes in the new material Satin-Laine, Dressing Gowns, real laces, hemstitch handkerchiefs, infant's clothing, &c. A few CHRISTMAS GOODS, such as brooches, ear-rings, neckties, purses, portemonnaies, scarf cases, work baskets, &c have also been received.

CHEAP SHAVING.—Fred. Payne, Tonsorial Artist, Johnson Street above Miner's Saloon. Shaving 12½ cents; Hair Cutting, 25 cents.

MORRIS REWARD.—It must be a source of gratification and pride to the inventor, after years of study and toil, to have success crown his efforts and know his labor are appreciated. This is peculiarly the case with Mr. Walker's Vegetable Vinegar Bitters, which is composed of purely vegetable preparations, making the most effectual alternative that it is possible for the medical intelligence and skill of our time to produce.

Pinquetry, Sour Stomach and Heartburn are the warnings given by nature of approaching dyspepsia and liver complaint. Avert the danger by using Dr. Williams' sugar-coated Pills. They invigorate the liver, tone and strengthen the stomach, and enable the bowels to perform their functions with ease and regularity. Occasional doses of Dr. Williams' Sarsaparilla will greatly hasten a cure.

THE QUEEN OF PERFUMES!

MURRAY & LANMAN'S FLORIDA WATER invigorates and strengthens the weak and debilitated, soothes and quiets the nervous and excitable, and induces healthy slumber to the weary and restless.

Beware of the pernicious counterfeits; always ask for the Florida Water prepared by the sole proprietors, Lanman & Kemp, New York.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Fever, Influenza.—For the subjugation of disease and the preservation of health, it is all important to maintain the purity of the blood, and to keep its channels clear, that no foulness nor obstructions shall impede the life-sustaining current. By these means are Holloway's Pills all powerful in restoring and protecting the human frame, and freeing it from fevers, influenza, congestions, inflammations, neuralgia and gouty pains, in short, from the many dangerous maladies arising from bad blood. A pure circulation is good security for life and health; when it is right the nervous system is in excellent condition, and on the other hand, harmony, and completeness of these systems, depend the perfection of life, energy, health, and happiness.

BREKFAST—EPH'S COCOA, GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING—is a very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favorite. The Civil Service Gazette.—The singular success with which Mr. Eph's Cocoa has been surpassed by any experimentalist. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws, which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Eph's Cocoa has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavored beverage which will save us many heavy doctors' bills. Made simply with boiling water or milk sold by the trade only in 1/2 lb., 1 lb., 2 lb., 4 lb., 8 lb. tins, packed in boxes, labeled—JAMES EPH & CO., Homoeopathic Chemists, London, England.

Auction Sales.

J. P. Davies & Co.
AUCTIONEERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS, Salesroom Fireproof Stone Building, Wharf Street near Yates.

Cash advances made on consignments.

NOTICE.

J. P. Davies & Co.
WILL HOLD THEIR USUAL FANCY SALE

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

When will be displayed the best assortment of Fancy Goods, Silver-ware, Jewelry, Watches, Clocks, Cabinet ware &c, ever displayed in the Colony.

Due notice and particulars in time.

de12

Picture Sale!!

J. P. DAVIES & CO.
Will sell by Public Auction

Friday, Dec'r. 17th,

At Salesrooms, Wharf street,

AT 11 O'CLOCK A. M.,

A Straigh Invoice of

Olieographic Paintings,

STEEL & COPPER PLATE

ENGRAVINGS,

PHOTOGRAPHS COLORED IN OIL,

Etc., Etc., Etc.

N. B.—The Auctioneers would call the attention of the public to the fine line of Paintings and Photographs, handsomely framed in Maple, Gold and Walnut, which will be sold regardless of Cost, among which will be found some fine copies from Old Masters. The whole will be on view one day prior, and Catalogues will be issued with the paper on the morning of sale.

J. P. DAVIES & CO.,
Auctioneers.

Auction Sales.

Lumley Franklin,
AUCTIONEER, COMMISSION & REAL ESTATE AGENT

DEGS TO ANNOUNCE THAT HE HAS taken the Fireproof Brick Building in Yates street, nearly opposite Messrs. Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express office, having had eleven years' experience in the Auction business, he respectfully solicits a renewal of public support.

A UCTION.

Mortgagee's Sale of

Real Estate

On Esquimalt Road.

Household Furniture,

Washing Machines.

GRAND PIANO,

HORSE, WAGON, &c.

Lumley Franklin

Is instructed to sell by order of the Mortgagee,

TO-MORROW

Friday, Dec'r. 17th,

AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK, AM.,

On the premises, Esquimalt Road,

The Property known as the Eureka Laundry, including 1½ Acres of Garden Ground, together with all the Buildings thereon.

—ALSO—

Two Washing Machines and apparatus complete, 4 Stoves, Household Furniture, Beds and Bedding, Culinary Utensils, Glass and Earthenware.

—ALSO—

1 Horse, Wagon and Harness.

For Particulars of Mortgagee sale apply to Robert Bishop, Solicitor, Victoria.

After the above Sale, at Sellock's Warehouse, Esquimalt Town, instructed by Mrs Cox,

Lot of excellent Furniture, saved from the late fire, consisting of Tables, Chairs, Bureaus, Carpets, Whatnots, Curtains, Cornices, Bedstead, Lounge, Sofa, &c.

—ALSO—

A Grand Piano and Music Stool.

de12 LUMLEY FRANKLIN, Auctioneer.

A UCTION

Christmas Sale

Preliminary Notice.

LUMLEY FRANKLIN

Will hold a special Sale of

FANCY GOODS,

Watches and Clocks,

JEWELRY,

Silks, Shawls, Cutlery and Glassware,

Toys, Stationery, Ornamental and other Goods suitable to

the holidays, on

Wednesday, Dec. 22,

Further particulars of which will be shortly announced.

de9 LUMLEY FRANKLIN, Auctioneer.

Now Paper Your Houses.

2000 ROLLS

Wall Paper

OF GOOD QUALITY,

JUST RECEIVED AND SOLD AT

12 1-2 Cents a Roll.

JOHN WELLS, PORT STREET.

no21 1m

C. BOSSI,

IMPORTER AND WHOLESALE & RETAIL DEALER IN

Groceries, Provisions, &c.

WINES, LIQUORS, &c.

NEW STORE, Cor. Government & Johnson St.

FARMERS' PRODUCE taken in Exchange.

FAMILIES supplied with the choicest art cleve in my time in any part of the City Free of Cost or Carriage.

de4

WRAPPING PAPER.

FOR SALE CHEAP—At the COLONIST OFFICE.

Auction Sales.

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